

### **Amendments to Specification**

1. Please insert the following title to page 1 of the specification and prior to the Section "Field of Invention":

**A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ACCOUNTING MANAGEMENT  
IN AN IP CENTRIC DISTRIBUTED NETWORK**

2. Please insert the following section entitled "Cross-References to Related Application" below the title on page 1 of the specification:

**CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is related to the following patent/application: U.S. Patent No. 6,714,987 entitled "Architecture for an IP Centric Distributed Network" and filed on November 5, 1999, and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/624,066 entitled "A system and method for service session management in an IP centric distributed network" and filed on July 24, 2000.

3. Please add the following section entitled "Brief Description of the Drawings" on page 5 of the specification and prior to the section entitled "Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments":

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Figure 1 illustrates an embodiment of Internet Accounting Management Model.

Figure 2 illustrates an embodiment of an NGN accounting management architectural model.

Figure 3 illustrates an embodiment of the accounting logical interfaces between the NGN components.

Figure 4 illustrates an embodiment of Accounting Structures.

Figure 5 illustrates an embodiment of an Accounting Model Indicator Establishment on Service Session Invocation.

Figure 6 illustrates an embodiment of a Usage Reporting Mechanism.

Figure 7 illustrates an embodiment of an Access Session Accounting for Registration.

Figure 8 illustrates an embodiment of an Access Session Accounting for Deregistration.

Figure 9 illustrates an embodiment of Service Session Accounting.

Figure 10 illustrates an embodiment of Intra-LSF Handoff.

Figure 11 illustrates an embodiment of Inter-LSF Handoff.

4. Please replace the first paragraph under the section entitled “Summary of the Invention” on page 3 of the specification as follows:

In contrast to the prior art as in legacy telecommunication networks, the present invention is based on the patents ~~“An architecture for an IP centric distributed network”, that was filed on November 5, 1999 [Docket No. 22171.121] and “A system and method for service session management in an IP centric distributed network”, that was filed on July 24, 2000 [Docket No. 22172.223].~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,714,987 entitled “Architecture for an IP Centric Distributed Network” and filed on November 5, 1999, and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/624,066 entitled “A system and method for service session management in an IP centric distributed network” and filed on July 24, 2000. These patents describe the next generation network (NGN) architecture centered on IP mobility management, call/session management, and network management services and service session management activities respectively. Collectively, these patents provide network architecture baseline and identifies network services. An accounting management service is one of the network services coordinated between system components that monitor and record network resources used.

5. Please replace the first paragraph under the subtitle “NGN Accounting Management Architecture” on page 11 of the specification as follows:

The present invention is based on the patents ~~“An architecture for an IP centric distributed network”, that was filed on November 5, 1999 [Docket No. 22171.121] and “A system and method for service session management in an IP centric distributed network”, that was filed on July 24, 2000 [Docket No. 22172.223].~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,714,987 entitled “Architecture for an IP Centric Distributed Network” and filed on November 5, 1999, and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/624,066 entitled “A system and method for service session management in an IP centric

distributed network” and filed on July 24, 2000. These patents describe the next generation network (NGN) architecture centered on IP mobility management, call/session management, and network management services and service session management activities respectively. Collectively, these patents provide network architecture baseline and identifies network services. An accounting management service is one of the network services coordinated between system components that monitor and record network resources used.